



# Foggy Bottom News

Published for and by the Citizens of Foggy Bottom

September 1983

Volume 28, No. 6

## IN THIS ISSUE

Even though the Foggy Bottom News staff took a vacation from publishing during the past two months many of our colleagues in community service continued to pursue their hard work on several very important projects that impact on community life in Foggy Bottom. In this issue we attempt to bring you up to date on the latest progress on those projects. Steve Levy has been very occupied with the Board of Zoning in hearings on the GWU storage facility. The

ANC Notes will inform you of the status of several projects. The Soggy Bottom Babies Cooperative announces its First Annual Fall Picnic and Ward II Democrats also announce a neighborhood picnic. Bob Alcorn renews the Neighborhood Watch effort and Karen Jaehne Latham keeps us current on the latest screen offerings in her column PRIMAL SCREEN THERAPY.

We also introduce you to Beverlee Ahlin of the Boat House Art Center. We bid

welcome to those of you who are new to the neighborhood and we encourage you to join the Foggy Bottom Association and attend its monthly meetings.

We at the News are seeking writers/reporters. We welcome articles about Foggy Bottom, its residents and those topics or events that impact upon the neighborhood. If you are interested in becoming one of our regular contributors or reporters please submit a sample of your writing to the News in care of the West End Library.

## NEIGHBORHOOD RECEIVES PRESERVATION GRANT

by Rick Churchill

In July the Foggy Bottom Association and ANC-2a submitted a grant proposal to the State Historic Preservation Office. During the last two years the FBA and the ANC have sponsored an extensive historic and architectural survey and an inventory of the entire neighborhood. As the data collection and analysis processes came to a close, there was a specific need to inform the community of the findings and begin the process of public recognition and protection through historic designation. On September 1st, the State Historic Preservation Office tentatively approved funding of nearly \$13,000 for the following three projects:

(1) the design and implementation of a model computer program that will process and store the inventory data for easy accessibility for citizens and public agencies;

(2) the development of a public awareness program (brochures, public meetings, and extensive media coverage) to inform and educate citizens

of Foggy Bottom/West End about their neighborhood, the District of Columbia's historic preservation program, processes and laws, and the potential impact of living within a protected historic district;

(3) the preparation and presentation of applications for historic status for resources identified by the neighborhood survey and inventory to provide for their public recognition and legal protection against insensitive development.

## MEETING

### Foggy Bottom Association

James P. Zais, Guest Speaker

Ward II Coordinator for the

Mayor's Office of Community Services

Monday, Sept. 26, 1983

St. Paul's Parish House  
2430 K Street, N.W.

8:00 PM

All Are Welcome

### Ward II Democrats to Hold Founders Day Picnic

Ward Two Democrats announces a Founders' Day Picnic on Sunday, September 25, 1983, at Francis School, 24th & N Streets, N.W., from one to dusk, rain or shine. The picnic is free and will include a straw poll of presidential preference, a program involving community and city leaders, voter registration, an auction, games and prizes. Food and beverages will be sold. All are welcome.

### FIRST ANNUAL SOGGY BOTTOM BABIES FALL PICNIC

NOON  
Saturday, Oct. 1, 1983  
at  
the playground

## Penny Power

What can you do for 1½ cents per day? Well, you can smoke ¼ of a cigarette, eat ⅓ of an ounce of a Mounds Bar, eat ⅓ of one MacDonald's french fry, or purchase ⅓ of an ounce of gasoline—which certainly won't take you very far! Pennies don't seem to be worth much today, do they? If you answered "Yes" to that question, then we need to introduce you to the real facts. One and one-third cents per day can go a very long way indeed!

In the past year, your penny and one-third per day has: supported the legal battle for the bus ban in Foggy Bottom; helped to build a playground for the neighborhood children; paid for the study of the architectural history of Foggy Bottom, which presents our case for historical preservation; contributed to the success of the Spring Block Party and the Octoberjazzfest. To top all of this off, your penny and one-third has helped fund the Foggy Bottom News. There are so many of us who contribute the brainpower, voicepower and manpower that have brought success to all of these projects. None of us is seeking fame or fortune through these efforts; our only goal is to ensure that Foggy Bottom is the best that it can be for all of us. What other neighborhood do you know of that has such a sense of community, is so successful in making its wishes known to the city or has a quality newspaper that is delivered free-of-charge to its residents and businesses?

### WON'T YOU SPEND 1½¢ PER DAY TO SUPPORT THE QUALITY OF LIFE IN YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD?

Please send your check for \$5.00 (Annual membership fee) along with the following registration card **TODAY!** to the Foggy Bottom Association. If you don't have time to fill out the registration card, send us your check anyway and we will fill the card out for you. If you are out of stamps, don't say to yourself "Oh well, I'll mail it after I get some stamps."; instead, put your check and registration card in the white wooden box that is on the stoop in front of 912 25th Street, N.W. We will do almost anything to make it convenient for you to become a member. So please write your check today, *right now while you are thinking about it*. It's the best penny and one-third per day that you could possibly spend.

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Dues  
Year Ending  
June 30



# FBA SUMMER NEWS

At the June FBA meeting the following individuals were elected as Officers and members of the Executive Board:

President: Richard Churchill  
Vice President: Tom Miller  
Secretary: Lois Zuckerman  
Treasurer: Mel Ogden

Board Members: Bob Alcorn, Ellie Becker, Mary Brewster, Anne Lomas, Florence Ryan, Ed Schleifstein, and Marge Wheatley

There were two board meetings this summer. The first took place on July 18th and was followed by a second meeting August 29th. Topics of discussion included:

**BYLAWS:** There is a need to revise the bylaws to meet the current needs of the Association. Subjects under consideration are membership

and the nomination committee.

**FOGGY BOTTOM NEWS:** With the retirement of Ed Winterbottom a new ad manager was needed. A number of people were suggested as a potential replacement. The President reported back to the board that Jean Bowling, Jean Able, Anne Lomas and Bob Charles were willing to help on advertising this year.

**HISTORIC PRESERVATION:** The President submitted a grant application for the historic preservation of the neighborhood. The board was concerned about the difficulty in raising matching funds for the project. The President responded that most of the money for this project would be needed only after homeowners and residents decided if

they wanted this protective enhancement.

**MEMBERSHIP:** One of the most difficult problems is getting neighbors to renew their membership to the FBA early in the year. Mel Ogden suggested that invoice statements should be sent to remind people that now was the time to pay their dues. Florence Ryan was made Membership Chair.

**OCTOBERFEST:** It was decided that Octoberfest would not be held this year.

**WHITEHURST FREEWAY:** Lucille Duprat resigned as the FBA representative to the Whitehurst Freeway Study Group. The President stated he would temporarily replace her. Tom Miller will remain as alternate.

## CRIME WATCH

by Bob Alcorn

It is a real pleasure talking with you all once again. I sincerely hope that we can keep up the close contact that we had last season even though we have had to pass through a long hot summer with little formal contact due to the absence of any organized meetings.

Crime has gone down in the Foggy Bottom-West End area. My ability to make that statement proves that our efforts in establishing an effective Neighborhood Watch Program have not been in vain. This does not mean, however, that there is no crime or that we can relax our vigil; rather, we must be aware of the statistics and collectively fight to keep them low. I only hope that the figures that we have been given reflect all the crime in the area and not just the incidence of reported crime. If you have been the victim of a crime and you did not report it, then you have done the entire neighborhood a disservice. Please let one of us know any time you are a victim of a crime and be sure to alert the police. We can only combat crime if we know about it.

### CRIMEFLASH...

*At the end of August, there were three cars broken into on 26th Street between I and K. One of the cars contained luggage in the back seat. This is a direct invitation for a thief to break in. Please empty out your seats before you lock up a car for the night especially if it is parked on a public space. During the summer, a number of apartment houses reported that their coin operated laundry machines had been broken into. This seems to be a constant plague. The buildings stepped up their security and began a watch on the laundry rooms. Unfortunately it still continues. Also during the summer, a number of our residents living in apartment houses admitted persons to their buildings or apartments who were supposed to be workmen, inspectors, et al, but in reality, were robbers intent on holding up the residents. Once the thieves gained entrance, they had a field day with the residents and the contents of the apartments. Please be more careful. If you did not call a repairman, don't let him*

in and if it is an inspector, he should have gone through the resident manager in the first place and you should not be letting him in at all.

### Crime Tip

Apartment residents! Watch your entrance doors. Do not let people you do not know walk in behind you. You are protecting yourselves and your neighbors and if you let someone in without thought and that person is indeed there to rob, you may be the one harmed.

I am looking forward to meeting more of you at Foggy Bottom and ANC meetings throughout the winter and am hoping that all of you keep up the good work to make Foggy Bottom/West End the safest place in town in which to live, to work to play in.

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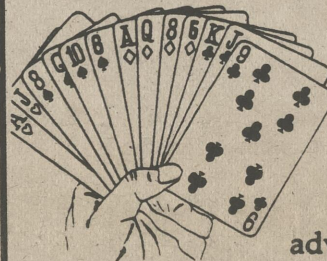
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## Foggy Bottom News

The Foggy Bottom News is a publication of the Foggy Bottom Association. All editorial and other assistance is contributed on a volunteer basis by residents of the area.

Editor ..... Deborah Cahill-Zelinka  
Assistant Editor ..... Donna St. John  
Advertising Manager ..... Jean Bowling, 363-7991  
Jean Bowling, 363-7991  
Circulation ..... Ellie Becker

### Contributing Writers

Primal Screen Therapy ..... Karen Jaehne Latham  
Legal Ease ..... Dan Haslam  
Crime Watch ..... Bob Alcorn  
From the Bottom Up ..... Puck

All announcements, letters, articles, etc., welcome but must be typed **double spaced**. Please include an evening phone number. Send to:

**FOGGY BOTTOM NEWS**  
% West End Library  
24th & L Sts., N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20037

**Next issue deadline: October 7, 1983**

The opinions expressed in this publication are those of the writers. Their appearance here constitutes neither an endorsement nor official policy of the Foggy Bottom Association.

### 1982-83 Officers

President ..... Rick Churchill  
Vice President ..... Tom Miller  
Secretary ..... Lois Zuckerman  
Treasurer ..... Melvin Ogden

### Executive Board

Bob Alcorn, Mary Brewster, Ellie Becker, Anne Lomas, Florence Ryan, Ed Schleifstein, Marge Wheatley



# ANC from A to Z Summary of ANC Meetings— June thru September

by Bob Alcorn

**Bill 5-203:** This bill requires that commercial establishments near residential units must conform to residential hours for picking up trash. This is a change from 24-hours-a-day to limits of 7 AM to 9 PM. The ANC supported this bill.

**Bill 5-215:** This bill allows businesses in residential areas to possess two residential parking space stickers in order to conduct their business. The ANC opposed its passage.

**Revenue Bond Regulations:** The ANC commented on new Revenue Bond Regulations. The thrust of the ANC resolution is to allow affected ANC's to have reasonable advance notification of the proposed Bond issues and that "great weight" be afforded to ANC comments.

**BZA 13999:** GWU made a parking renewal application for their lot at the corner of 24th and G Sts., next to St. Mary's Court. GWU representative (Roger Lyons) stated that the University does not have any plans to develop this lot for at least five years. The ANC passed Resolution G-3 which did not oppose the application.

**Martha's Table/McKenna's Wagon:** Various groups have begun feeding street people in the Foggy Bottom area. The location of this feeding program has been a point of controversy. The feeding first centered around the 26th and L Sts. area where there has been a noticeable increase of street people, litter and crime. Some citizens have also complained that they feel unsafe walking in this area in the evening when the feeding takes place, especially when they have to climb over people lying in front of their homes, or pan-handling them at their doors.

Tom Miller was asked to inquire into the intention of the food sponsors as well as relating the neighborhood's concerns to those groups. It was to be specifically requested that the feeding localities be changed every week or two, to avoid overly impacting residents in any one area, with emphasis on new locations in commercial rather than residential areas.

**Historic Preservation:** The ANC and FBA have submitted a grant proposal to continue the preservation work in the neighborhood. The ANC authorized the Chair to submit the application in time to qualify for Fiscal Year 1983 funds. (See related story.)

**Transportation: 25th and I Sts.** The ANC was presented a petition from nearly 150 citizens requesting a four-way stop sign system at the intersection of 25th and I Sts. The ANC passed a resolution, offered by Commissioner Levy (H-6) in support and forwarded the request to D.C. DOT. (The request was approved by DOT.)

**2430 Penn. Ave.:** This building was sold to developers from Houston who plan to renovate it into a 4-Star hotel. In the process, the building tenants are being evicted, including the Washington Circle Drug Store and eventually the Federal Supermarket which has a lease. Many citizens are concerned about the extent to which this development will negatively impact the neighborhood. Ellie Becker reported that she and several other citizens had met with representatives of 2430 to learn more about the intent of development plans. The building will be closed for eight months for its \$11 million renovation. They will apply for an ABC license even though they are next to St. Stephen's Church. Bob Alcorn stated they also planned to apply for curb cuts to allow for a driveway fronting on Penn. Ave. Jenny Brake was concerned if tenants had been properly informed of their rights. The point was apparently moot because all had moved out. The future of the Federal Market is unclear but there may be a chance of its relocation in the neighborhood at 23rd and M Sts.

**2106 F St.:** A number of citizens mentioned the demolition of the apartment at 2106 F Street. Commissioner Levy said the ANC was aware of the demolition and that the proposed building might be another medical clinic, according to the latest information.

**26th & L Sts.:** Many residents were upset over the sudden demolition of the house at the corner lot at 26th and L Streets. Citizens were even more concerned about the prospect of a high-rise commercial building being located there. Commissioner Levy responded to the concerns by stating that the ANC is handicapped in many similar situations because they receive notification of demolition permits only after they have been issued and not when they are applied for. The ANC passed a resolution requesting that the City Council require a two-week advance notification

from the D.C. Office of License and Permits before any permit is issued.

**Whitehurst Freeway:** A special meeting was held on the Whitehurst Freeway (WHF) because a number of citizens were concerned that none of the current alternatives to the freeway modification had incorporated the use of a K Street tunnel running from Washington Circle past 26th Street. Also, the ANC needed to appoint a new representative to the WHF study group. The ANC passed a resolution introduced by Commissioner Tyler which requested the Department of Transportation (a) to consider such a tunnel alternative, (b) to study a ramp way system at 27th Street with the intent that no adverse impact be made to areas around 25th, 26th and M Sts. and (c) to make any vacant land west of 26th Street a park area.

**Zoning:** Commissioner Levy informed the audience that developer Eddie Lenkin's PUD at the corner of 26th and K had been approved by the Zoning Commissioner.

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# ASK THE IMMIGRATION LAWYER

by Fiona Dana Lessans

**QUESTION:** I am a foreign national who would like to study in the United States. What is involved?

**ANSWER:** Foreign students enter the United States in one of three categories, depending on the program of study they wish to pursue and the type of school they wish to attend. The largest percentage of foreign students are in the F-1 nonimmigrant visa category, available to academic students and students in language training programs at institutions approved by the U.S. Attorney General for that purpose. In 1981, Congress created the M-1 visa category, which is available to nonacademic or vocational students who are not in language training.

The third nonimmigrant visa category is the J-1 visa, available to students who are enrolled in an exchange visitor program accepted by the U.S. Information Agency. It should be noted that some J-1 students may be subject to a requirement that they return to their home country and live there for two years before they can become eligible for an H (temporary worker) or L (intracompany transferee) non-immigrant visa or for permanent residence in the United States. Because the law also varies regarding extensions of

stay and work permission for J visa holders, the remainder of the article will deal with F-1 and M-1 visas.

To qualify for an F-1 or M-1 visa, the alien must: (1) have a residence abroad which he or she has no intention of abandoning; (2) be a bona fide student qualified to pursue a full course of study; (3) be proficient in English or plan to receive training in English; and (4) demonstrate sufficient financial support to assure that he or she will not engage in employment while in the United States.

It is important to note that off-campus employment for an F-1 visa holder can be authorized only by a showing of economic necessity due to unforeseen circumstances arising subsequent to his or her admission in F-1 status. Furthermore, new Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) regulations (1) bar any off-campus employment for an F-1 student whose program is one year or less and (2) bar off-campus employment during the first year for an F-1 student whose course of study is more than one year. An M-1 student is barred from employment, except for practical training, as explained below.

For on-campus employment of an F-1 student, no application needs to be made to

the INS, provided that the on-campus employment is pursuant to the terms of a scholarship, fellowship or assistantship or that the employment will not displace a U.S. worker. Both off-campus and on-campus employment is limited to 20 hours per week when school is in session, but may be full-time during vacation periods.

Students in F-1 status are also eligible for up to a maximum of 12 months of practical training, provided that the designated school official certifies that the practical training is related to the student's course of study and that comparable employment is not available in the student's country of residence. Students in M-1 status may qualify for up to six months of practical training.

An accompanying spouse and/or child of an F-1 or M-1 student is granted F-2 or M-2 visa, respectively.

It should be noted that certain legal definitions and additional regulations apply to the above.

Ms. Lessans, a resident of Foggy Bottom, is an attorney who practices immigration law. Questions may be directed to the newspaper.



Ellen Perry in Watercolor Class

## NEW ART SCHOOL AT THOMPSON BOAT CENTER IN FOGGY BOTTOM

The Kennedy Center has gotten an arty new neighbor. Beverlee Ahlin, the accomplished award-winning watercolorist, smilingly attributes to her dog the discovery of the Thompson Boat Center as a superb site for the Boat House Art School, which she has recently founded. The Boat House opened its doors for the first classes in drawing, acrylics, oils and watercolors on May 24th and is off to an encouraging start. Fall sessions begin September 20.

"Thirty students are actively, and I think, happily, at work in drawing and various painting classes and we've won the District's accolade in the form of a City Council resolution presented by Councilman John Wilson citing and praising our efforts," says Ahlin.

While on her customary walk with Prince Henry the Navigator (her Portuguese Water Dog), Beverlee found herself being urged toward the spacious second-story loft of the Boat Center. "Its airy expanse, tall windows and wide decks are ideal for an art school," Ahlin was successful in securing the enthusiastic support of the National Park Service for the establishment of an art school there.

Classes at the Art Center will run six weeks for a fee of \$75, and offer "instruction and adventures in art for all ages!" The faculty will include Ahlin

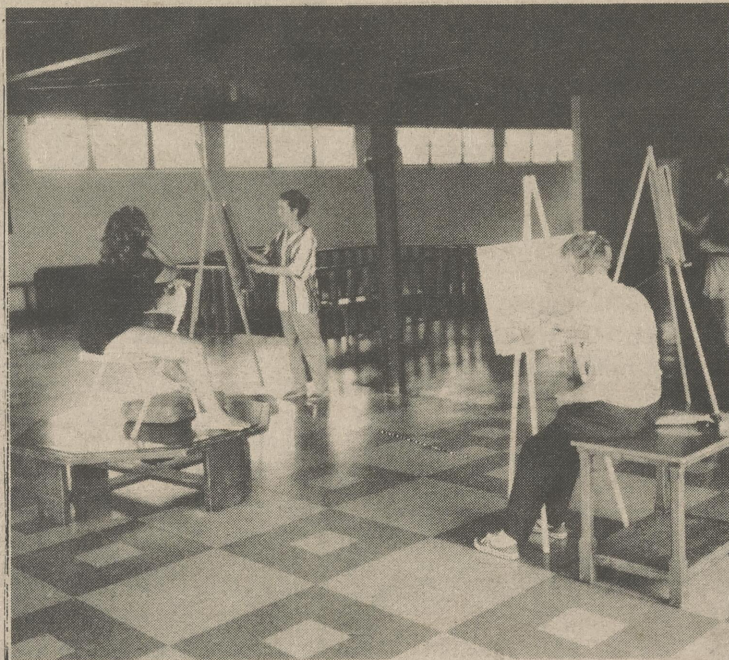
and two other Washington painters, Marilyn Grossman and Shirley Koller. Shirley is currently a lecturer at Northern Virginia Community College. "We hope to compete with our university neighbors in quality, but with lower prices," says Ahlin.

As Ahlin describes the site which is located on the riverbank, where Virginia Avenue and Rock Creek Park meet, just above the old Georgetown Tide Lock, "It's attractive, convenient, and secure, ideally adapted for the purpose in this traffic-congested world. There are few better ways to learn drawing and painting than 'on location' indoors and outdoors at this picturesque and easily accessible spot."

The Boat House loft is the indoor classroom, the decks and riverbank the outdoor sites, for personalized instruction in drawing, composition, color selection and use, with all related techniques in painting. Photography and collage classes will be offered in the fall and winter.

The National Park Service has offered free parking for students during the daytime classes.

For further information, you are urged to phone or write to: Beverlee Ahlin, Director, Boat House Art School, c/o 2700 Virginia Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20037, (202) 342-9467.



Drawing class, Mary Carson in foreground

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# UPDATE ON F STREET WAREHOUSE CASE

by Steve Levy

The application of George Washington University for a warehouse, maintenance and truck service building, truck parking lot and trash compactor storage area on the 2000 block of F Street, N.W., has resulted in the most extensive case yet presented before the Board of Zoning Adjustment. Before the Board on June 29 and August 25, we went through twelve hours of hearings. GWU called in experts in architecture, urban planning, transportation, air pollution, and noise, as well as a platoon of University officials to attempt to prove that their proposed building would in fact benefit the neighborhood, reduce truck traffic and be a boon to people living on or near the 2000 block of "F" Street. We heard such revelations as a reduction in the amount of student parking will reduce noise and pollution in the neighborhood. GWU is apparently ignoring that the increased difficulty of on-street parking will cause students to spend longer time (and more pollution) driving around looking for parking spaces. GW officials denied having anything to do with changing our on-street residential spaces to metered parking (look at the most recent example, in front of Quigley's). GW also asserted that the Community's safety would be greatly enhanced by the housekeeping staff going to and from the proposed building all night.

When we offered carefully thought out architectural alternatives which gave GW the space it said it needed and gave us needed residential space, a developer who would be interested in putting them up at no increase in cost to GW and offered to work with GW to improve the proposals, GW threw up a series of roadblocks—which we continually met. Their last roadblock was insistence that in five days (before the final hearing), we had to give them fully developed blueprints, a detailed financial proposal, and guarantee that construction of an alternate building would *not take even one day longer* than the construction deadline for their proposed building. At that, we balked, because of the inordinate expense involved, given that it was clear GW would find still other reasons to reject any alternatives that we might offer.

The ANC opposition to the application included an impressive array of witnesses, starting with prominent local and national architect, David

Schwarz, and transportation expert, Jim Clark, the former D.C. Department of Transportation Policies and Plans Director. Rick Churchill testified for the Foggy Bottom Association, while Jimmy Molinelli represented the West End Citizens Association. Geoffry Stamm and I testified for the ANC and we presented an extensive series of community witnesses including Sue Schumacher, on behalf of the Letterman House Condo, Ceil Aptaker, Carl Anderson and Kent Blumenthal from the Empire; and Dick Generelly for the Fraternity Housing Association. By letter, numerous residents and property owners opposed the application, including Mrs. Katherine Filene Shouse, Mary Bason for the Monroe House Condo, and Mary Jane Coolen for the George Washington University Student Association. While almost all community witnesses lauded the (facade) design GW had proposed, we unanimously objected to locating all of the University's undesirable noise and traffic generating functions behind that facade. We pointed out where GWU had purposefully misstated the extent of the building's impact and had stonewalled the community to attempt to simply bull through its proposal by insisting that the Campus plan superseded the zoning regulations. When we challenged the GW-projected levels of traffic, GW conceded higher levels of truck traffic. When we pointed out inconsistencies in their insistence that a 15 percent surplus in dock loading time was ample, that 15 percent shrunk to 5 percent on peak days and still assumed that all trucks would be evenly spaced throughout the day. When we accused GW of providing inaccurate and incomplete data on the total floor area of buildings on campus (a key limit in development) and of possibly including lots which should not be included, they changed the numbers and conceded that a higher level of their building rights on campus had been used up. The GW transportation expert was forced to concede that even though he concluded there would be a decrease in truck traffic, he had not measured truck traffic near the building site and recognized that all these trucks which would now be going to the F Street site were not going there before. When GW stated there would be only one semi-trailer *per month*, we used their own statistics and notes to clearly show three to four semi-trailers would come to the site *per week*. When we pointed out the repeated and continuing problems with

overflowing garbage compactors and rats feeding near them, GW didn't challenge the validity of those witnesses' testimonies.

I think we did an excellent job of getting GW witnesses to contradict their own testimony under cross examination, and the points we raised were often used by Board members to further grill the GW witnesses. This has, however, been one of the most frustrating cases in which I have had to deal with GW, given their blind insistence that black is white and that the community is unreasonable and uncooperative because it insists on GW providing a reasonable amount of data on the building's transportation and noise impacts. It has also been the most expensive case I have handled, with total billings to the ANC now approaching \$9,000. While I appreciate the over \$1,500 received in public contributions, many letters and expressions of support, the \$4,000 thus far provided between ANC-2a and the FBA has not nearly filled the gap. Our fine attorney, Peter Kolker, voluntarily cut his billing by about half, even though he already put in numerous unbilled hours. I would estimate that volunteers, including many people not already mentioned, have put in over 3000 hours of effort in our fighting GW to a standstill. As we still owe our attorney \$4,000, and he has put in his time in good faith, I urgently request members of the community to make their tax deductible contributions to ANC-2a to carry a share of the effort. Between the York, Empire, Statesman, Letterman House, Monroe House and Potomac Park apartments—the people who would bear the brunt of the added truck traffic—there are nearly 1,300 people. If half of those people contributed even \$10 (most of our contributions have been for \$50 or \$100) we could pay our bills. Won't you try? Send your check and ask your neighbors to send theirs to: ANC-2a, 1920 G Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20037. We have a good chance of imposing controls on hours of operation and truck access to the building and a 50-50 chance of stopping the building entirely. Please help us to finish the case.

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## LEGAL EASE

by Dan Haslam, Esq.

**Question:** My aging, widowed mother lives alone in a Foggy Bottom highrise, and so far has been able to manage her personal and financial affairs fairly well. But there are signs of age coming with greater frequency; for example, she no longer balances her checkbook and occasionally forgets to pay bills. I live on the West Coast, and there are no other relatives nearby. My mother's friends are in similar situations, so I doubt if they will be able to offer substantial assistance in the event my mother needs it. What, if anything, can be done to assist my mother on a day-to-day basis with helping to manage her business, so that I am not called from the West Coast for minor problems?

**Answer:** The aging parent situation is occurring with greater frequency in this time of longevity, and it should be dealt with creatively. Not every legal solution is the proper one in every case. If your mother's living situation is such that a live-in companion is a possibility, you and she may wish to consider someone who is several years younger or more attuned to financial matters. If the problem is simply a bookkeeping one, you may arrange with your mother and her bank to set up a telephone bill paying account and a joint checking account which you could keep balanced from the West Coast. The advent of electronic banking permits, at a minimum, the direct deposits of checks, and from a financial standpoint, you should be able to manage her financial affairs from one coast to another. In addition, many banks will set up trust accounts if your mother has sufficient assets, and they will arrange to pay all of your mother's bills, manage her money and provide complete accountings for a very modest fee.

In more extreme cases, a conservatorship may be required for your mother. A conservatorship acts like a legal guardianship, where an individual serves as the legal representative of another person. The conservator is appointed by a judge after a petition is filed with the court. Prior to appointment, a hearing is held to determine the need for a conservator, and such factors as ability of the individual to care for him or herself, proximity of next of kin, past history, and size of assets, are considered. The individual is likely to resist conservatorship and may be represented by legal counsel. It is also possible to remove a conservator if the individual (called a ward) regains sufficient capacity to manage alone. The conservator is insured and must receive court approval before any monies can be expended on behalf of the ward. Conservators may have total discretion over wards and even have the ability to determine where the ward will live. Or, conservators may be more limited in their discretion by the court, and be appointed only to manage the ward's financial estate. One advantage of a conservator over an institutional trustee is that a conservator is likely to be more active with a ward on a day-to-day basis than a trustee is, but the conservator will always have greater authority than a trustee because of the court appointment

## Zoning Decision Aids Neighborhood

by Steve Levy  
and Rick Churchill

An important decision was recently reached by the Board of Zoning Adjustment. That decision has major precedential value for our neighborhood. The BZA decision upheld a decision of the D.C. Zoning Administrator (Mr. Fahey) on what constitutes a residential use for calculating Floor Area Ratios (FAR).

The Zoning Administrator's decision established that residential uses in the C-2-C districts (specifically at 2400 Penn. Ave.) are confined to uses which are basically living accommodations (apartments, condos, co-ops, and, unfortunately, hotels). The assertion had been made, by the attorneys for a landlord attempting to convert an apartment house into a medical clinic, that residential FAR could include any uses permitted in a R-5 district, including clinics, hospitals, churches, schools, and

any allowed special exceptions. All residential areas in Foggy Bottom are zoned R-5.

Steve Levy felt the potential of Mr. Fahey's then-pending ruling would emerge as a significant step toward protecting our eroding residential housing base. He therefore expended a great deal of effort in providing research into allowed uses and the legislative history of the Zoning Regulations. His research was cited in Mr. Fahey's decision. Similarly, ANC-2a intervened in the BZA appeal filed by the landlord of 2400 Penn. Ave. Needless to say, the neighborhood was pleased with the 4-0 BZA decision upholding Mr. Fahey's decision.

The neighborhood has patiently waited for the BZA to issue its written decision in this matter (Case 13935). Nearly four months have passed since their decision meeting was held on May 4. As the BZA did not overrule Mr. Fahey's decision, it is now in effect.

process. Conservators are paid, but this cost is a reasonable one (approximately 5% of the amount spent in a year).

With the growing number of older people in our country, it is necessary to check into all the alternatives for a solution which is in your mother's best interest. She undoubtedly values her independence, and the choice which you and she make together must respect her independence and free will for as long as she is able to exercise them.

*[Dan Haslam is an attorney who lives in Foggy Bottom. Questions for him may be addressed to him in care of this newspaper and dropped off at the West End Branch library. Views reflected in his column are his own.]*

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## PRIMAL SCREEN THERAPY

by Karen Jaehne Latham

Depending on your cinematic requirements, three basic forms of therapy are available in the next month. All of them can be recommended on sheer cinematic competence alone, but what the film may do to your head should be evident in the following reviews.

Woody Allen is back! His latest film ZELIG is about a fictional character with a chameleon character. He changes according to the nearest influence, be that the President of the U.S. or his female shrink. Allen has integrated old documentary footage with his tale, and the two are inseparable. Poor Zelig's story is told with compassion as well as with the tin-type voice of the narrator of the newsreels you may remember from your youth. ZELIG is perhaps the cleverest film to come along since DEAD MEN DON'T WEAR PLAID, but its resonance is certainly deeper than movie-buffery. If you have ever suspected that not only actors, but everyone else you know, is a mere reflection of the most immediate influence available, this film will show you the most extreme example of a personality in flux. Surely the funniest scene is when he over-identifies with his own shrink.

On the more bizarre end of the scale is LIQUID SKY, a perverse science-fiction movie made for New Wave and artistically inclined voyeurs. Elegant, decadent, but decisive in its murderous impulses, this story of a woman who slays her lovers in the very act of loving does not really need the extra dimension brought to it by the group of outrageous Russian emigres who made it as their own interpretation of "Amerika". Special effects with computer-generated imagery and downbeat drug scenes both fascinate and repel, but it is necessary to realize that LIQUID SKY is indeed a parody of all that claims to be punk, new wave, trendy, glib and uninvolved. But it is certainly a film to be noticed for its handling of narrative and neon negativity. Something's going on in "Amerika": is this it?

A safe movie to take your family, your friends, your relatives visiting from out of town—THE GREY FOX, a panoramic view of the old West and the first train robber. Based on the true story of Bill Miner, one of the most wanted criminals of his time, the film is a wonderful combination of character, plot and scenery. Filmed in the Pacific Northwest, against the spectacular mountains and unexploited beauty of Nature, it stars Richard Farnsworth, whom you will recognize as a character actor from many of the well-remembered Westerns and a great stuntman. He plays Miner with a low-key and uncriminal instinct. He is merely a man who emerges from a prison rap for robbing stage coaches, and must now cope with the new technology—trains! How he does this and how he gets caught makes an American legend into a comprehensible and admirable piece of cinema.

If even THE GREY FOX is not old-fashioned enough for you, you might wander up the street to the Kennedy Center, where the American Film Institute is going to show a series called "The Naughty Thirties Before the Code." Referring to the "Production Code" that was created to govern, or rather impose, morality on Hollywood products, this series offers some outrageously funny and salacious comedies such as TROUBLE IN PARADISE from 1932, DESIGN FOR LIVING, 1933, and TEN CENTS A DANCE, a 1931 film directed by Lionel Barrymore. The masterpiece of the series is MADAM SATAN, which gives a certain insight into the mind of Cecil B. DeMille before he decided to scale The TEN COMMANDMENTS. Each of the films shows twice, and a brochure is available at the box-office for this series running from September 30–October 13. This package is one of the best series from the AFI for a long time! It goes a long way in explaining where our neuroses come from—and why we need Production Codes to keep them under control.

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The original five and friends at a triple birthday party in February 1982

## THEN WE WERE FIVE

A little over two years ago there suddenly appeared on the streets of Foggy Bottom five new babies in five new strollers being pushed by five new mommies and daddies. Out of that occurrence there developed fifteen friendships, a babysitting co-op, a playground and a comforting sense of fellowship in the knowledge that we were not alone when pacing the floor at three o'clock in the morning with a crying baby. Since that first sighting of the once rare species "urban parent" our number has grown far beyond even the most optimistic estimate, even given the loss of one of the original five families to Georgetown, another to Bucharest, and the recent emigrations of two families who were part of the Foggy Bottom Baby Boom of 1982 to Wesley Heights, as well as temporary

absences to Zimbabwe and Nepal. The number of new families with children and the number of new additions to families who already had children has grown beyond our record keeping ability. Most of you who have met Maryanna or Debbie at the playground have heard us promise to compile a list of parents and children. Well, both of us have failed to keep that promise. In order to make up for it and so that we may organize fall playgroups, give new life to the babysitting cooperative, as well as, afford all of you who have not already met each other a chance to become acquainted, we have decided to host The First Annual Soggy Bottom Babies' Fall Picnic.

You bring your own picnic lunch and we'll supply a luscious vat of our famous Soggy Bottom Babies Sangria. We

expect to see the Sheppards, the VanDevanter's, the McCormack's, the Rash/Cohns, the Gitchner/DeGaglia's, the DeJani's, Grandmother Sophie and Jan, the Nichol's, the Chabrier's and all of the other families that we've seen pushing strollers through Foggy Bottom. By the way Jose, Billy, Jonathan, Malcolm and their families are invited as are any other families who have older children.

See you on Saturday, OCTOBER 1, 1983 (raindate Sun. Oct. 2) at noon.

Location: Foggy Bottom Playground, 26th Street between I and K.

For further information on the picnic or any other aspect of the Soggy Bottom Babies call Maryanna Kieffer at 338-7449.

## Good News for Renters

by Marianna Moore

In all probability the City Council will enact emergency legislation to extend the life of the Rental Housing Conversion and Sale Act for five more years. There are many provisions which protect the renters, the most important are the following: The tenants retain the right to vote whether or not they want to convert their rental building. Conver-

sion cannot take place unless 51% of the eligible tenants vote in favor of conversion. Even if conversion occurs, senior citizens retain the right to remain in the building as lifetime tenants. Lastly, the maximum adjusted household income for senior citizens covered by this law increased from \$30,000 to \$40,000. More on this legislation in the next issue.

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## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### Volunteers Needed for GWU Reading Center

We have two areas in which we need part-time volunteers. The first is to assist our librarian in whatever way he may require. The second is for a retired, experienced secretary to help out a few hours a week.

The Reading Center offers a variety of programs for children from age 3 through adulthood. A professional staff conducts extensive diagnostic testing services and devel-

opmental vision therapy, ongoing classes in reading improvement and study skills, one-on-one tutoring, a program for gifted children, workshops and seminars related to literacy. The Center works closely with the University staff and students, and with the Greater Washington Area community.

The secretarial staff at the Center would welcome volun-

teer clerical services to assist with extensive typing and mail-outs. Hours are flexible, the work is rewarding, and a positive experience is guaranteed. Anyone interested should call the Center, 676-6286. Further information will be given on request.

### Wood Relief Sculpture Ink Drawings to be Shown at National Academy of Sciences

Sculptor Jane Goco and T'ang, a painter, will have a two-person exhibit at the National Academy of Sciences, September 16 through November 30.

Goco, who lives and works in North Carolina, has explored many mediums, and has currently settled on wood relief sculpture to express her feelings about the natural forms she depicts. She will show carved screens, a mantel, an altar, and panels with abstract though recognizable flowers, shells and other natural forms as their subject. The pieces are in Honduran mahogany except for the most recent, "African Cyrtorchis Arcuata," an orchid-form design, carved in white sugar pine.

Born in China, but resident in Paris since 1948, T'ang is a master of the ancient art of calligraphic ink painting. His black and white diptychs range from turbulent to calm. Many suggest landscapes, and seascapes while others reflect T'ang's interest in cosmic space.

The dual exhibit is part of the Arts in the Academy program sponsored by the NAS, 2101 Constitution Avenue, N.W. The public may visit the exhibit free of charge from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday.

### Monday Recorder Group

The Monday Recorder Group is now in its eighth year in Foggy Bottom. We meet in The United Church, at the corner of 20th and G Sts., N.W. We are preparing to conduct another recorder class for absolute beginners. The class will begin on Monday, September 12 and last for about three months. Those who complete the beginners' class will be invited to join another MRG playing section.

As usual, our beginners' class is open to people who have no previous musical experience. Class participants should have a soprano or tenor recorder (we recommend a plastic soprano, which costs around \$6), the method book, "Enjoy Your Recorder", by the Trapp Family (which costs about \$3), and the desire to learn an extremely enjoyable musical skill. Our dues are \$2 per month.

Those interested in the class are invited to call me at 863-0279 or Virginia Singer at 544-6022. The class will meet from 8:00 to 10:30 p.m. on Monday nights.

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